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**From:** Vaughn, Gloria [Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 5/10/2018 6:38:28 PM  
**To:** Blanco, Arturo [Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov]; Oral Saulters [osaulter@ksu.edu]; C Lamore [peecetoday@gmail.com]  
**CC:** Blase Leven [baleven@ksu.edu]; Kemp, Mary [Kemp.Mary@epa.gov]; Sheree Walsh [smw@ksu.edu]; Smith, Rhonda [smith.rhonda@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Region 6 EJ, Brownfields, and Choices Interlinking -- Kilgore, TX  
**Attachments:** DRAFT AGENDA.PDF

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached draft agenda. We anticipate having a final agenda by 5/23. You may contact me if you have questions.

Gloria

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**From:** Blanco, Arturo  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 10, 2018 12:45 PM  
**To:** Oral Saulters <osaulter@ksu.edu>; C Lamore <peecetoday@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Blase Leven <baleven@ksu.edu>; Kemp, Mary <Kemp.Mary@epa.gov>; Sheree Walsh <smw@ksu.edu>; Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>; Smith, Rhonda <smith.rhonda@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Region 6 EJ, Brownfields, and Choices Interlinking -- Kilgore, TX

Good afternoon Oral,

I am copying Gloria Vaughn to respond and send you a draft agenda. Thank you and Ms. LaMore for your interest in the EJ Forum. Hope to see all in June.

Arturo

*Arturo J. Blanco*, Director  
Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs  
US EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue (OEJTIA)  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214.665.3182 (O)  
214.531.8629 (M)

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**From:** Oral Saulters [<mailto:osaulter@ksu.edu>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:33 AM  
**To:** C Lamore <[peecetoday@gmail.com](mailto:peecetoday@gmail.com)>; Blanco, Arturo <[Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov](mailto:Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Blase Leven <[baleven@ksu.edu](mailto:baleven@ksu.edu)>; Kemp, Mary <[Kemp.Mary@epa.gov](mailto:Kemp.Mary@epa.gov)>; Sheree Walsh <[smw@ksu.edu](mailto:smw@ksu.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Region 6 EJ, Brownfields, and Choices Interlinking -- Kilgore, TX

Dear Mr. Blanco (Arturo),

We hope all is well for you and team! With respect to the upcoming *EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Forum*, do you happen to have a draft agenda that you could please share? Ms. Cozetta LaMore, local champion and innovative leader of Choices Interlinking in Kilgore, TX (which among other initiatives, connects community services, job training, and environmental conservation) is considering attending the event. She is interested in exploring partnerships and connecting with resources to help advance vision/goals.

Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

We appreciate your great work, leadership, and consideration of this request.

Have a wonderful day and rest of week.

Very respectfully,

oral

**oral saulters** | ksu/chsr | tab team  
785.280.0931 | www.ksutab.org

*"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world" - Desmond Tutu*

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**From:** Oral Saulters

**Sent:** Thursday, May 03, 2018 1:02 PM

**To:** C Lamore

**Cc:** Kemp, Mary; Peycke, Karen; Howard, Amber; Blase Leven; Blanco, Arturo; Williams, Denise; Sheree Walsh

**Subject:** EPA Region 6 EJ, Brownfields, and Choices Interlinking -- Kilgore, TX

Dear Cozetta,

We hope all is well for you and team! Thank you for the message and update. Also, thank you for your helpful peer perspective in assisting Boynton, OK community leaders.

Unfortunately, the EPA Region 6 Brownfields Conference is scheduled at the same time as the EPA Region 6 EJ Forum this year during the week of June 11<sup>th</sup> (I've copied EPA Region 6 Brownfields Program partners). Sounds like you are still working with State of Texas representatives from TCEQ and TX RRC.

However, we can put you in touch with the EPA Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal, and International Affairs Director, Arturo Blanco (I've copied Mr. Blanco on this message). He and his team may be able to provide additional guidance and insights with the event and beyond to assist with your important community building efforts including addressing oil and gas contamination concerns in Kilgore, TX.

Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

We appreciate your great work and collaboration.

Very respectfully,

oral

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*"We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness" - Thich Nhat Hanh*

**From:** C Lamore [<mailto:peecetoday@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 12:17 PM

**To:** Oral Saulters

**Subject:** Re: Groundwork USA -- [epa-ej] Apply for funding for community forest projects!

Thank-you for this info. I don't know if I can make it at this time but it is very good info to have. Do you plan to attend the June meeting in Dallas?

On Tue, May 1, 2018 at 1:32 PM, Oral Saulter <[osaulter@ksu.edu](mailto:osaulter@ksu.edu)> wrote:

Dear Cozetta,

I hope all is well for you and yours! Thank you for participating on the conference call today. Here is the information for the upcoming EJ conference in Dallas for peer ideas and EJ opportunities (EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Forum [June 12-13, Dallas, TX], <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epa-region-6-environmental-justice-forum-tickets-43477769178>

Not sure that the community forest project is the best fit as it looks like it is specifically designed for acquiring private forest land?

However, wanted to recommend connecting with Groundwork USA. They may have some ideas and resources for youth environmental job training. One of our partners in Louisiana, has a good working relationship with them.

## FROM GROUNDWORK USA (AN EPA BROWNFIELDS GRANTEE)

### GROUNDWORK USA KICKS OFF APPLICATION PROCESS

Groundwork USA, in partnership with NPS and EPA, is now accepting Letters of interest from communities wishing to begin the process of applying for Groundwork USA program funding and technical assistance and to join the Groundwork Network. For complete details on the application and selection process, including eligibility requirements, submission details, and evaluation criteria, [download the Call for Letters of Interest](#). **Letters of Interest must be received by Groundwork USA by April 30, 2018.** The selected community will be eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance from the National Park Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, and Groundwork USA to plan, establish, and build the capacity of a Groundwork Trust organization in their community. For more information about the program and the work of the Groundwork Network, please visit [www.groundworkusa.org](http://www.groundworkusa.org).

### Helpful Links

- **RFP for developing a new Trust link:** <https://groundworkusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2018-New-Groundwork-Trust-RFP.pdf>
- **Announcement on GW USA website:** <https://groundworkusa.org/groundwork-network/start-a-new-groundwork-trust/>

Your great work, collaboration, and partnership are much appreciated ☺

Hope you have a wonderful day and week.

Very respectfully,

oral

**oral saulters** |ksu/chsr| tab team

785.280.0931 | [www.ksutab.org](http://www.ksutab.org)

*"We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness" - Thich Nhat Hanh*

**From:** C Lamore [mailto:[peecetoday@gmail.com](mailto:peecetoday@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2018 2:54 PM

**To:** Oral Saulters

**Subject:** Fwd: [epa-ej] Apply for funding for community forest projects!

Hi Oral,

What is the June date for the regional conference you mentioned today?

Also, as mentioned we are considering land conservation and eco-development as a part of our youth leadership/ sustainability effort. I was wondering if you think the opportunity described below might be a good fit for that effort? It could provide job opportunities for target youth while also enhancing the community. If it does sound like a good fit, I don't know if it would make sense to apply for it as a regional opportunity for youth and young adults so as to include the Boynton effort?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Environmental Justice EPA** <[environmental-justice@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice@epa.gov)>

Date: Tue, May 1, 2018 at 11:00 AM

Subject: [epa-ej] Apply for funding for community forest projects!

To: Environmental Justice information <[epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:epa-ej@lists.epa.gov)>

## **Community Forest Program - Request for Applications**

**Deadline: June 29, 2018**

**[For more information, click here!](#)**

The Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (Community Forest Program) offers a unique opportunity for communities to acquire and conserve forests that provide public access and recreational opportunities, protect vital water supplies and wildlife habitat, serve as demonstration sites for private forest landowners, and provide economic benefits from timber and non-timber products.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Cooperative Forestry staff, requests applications for the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program (Community Forest Program or CFP). This is a competitive grant program whereby local governments, qualified nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grants to establish community forests through fee simple acquisition of private forest land from a willing seller. The purpose of the program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits such as sustainable forest management, environmental benefits including clean air, water, and wildlife habitat; benefits from forest-based educational programs; benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship; and recreational benefits secured with public access.

Eligible lands for grants funded under this program are private forest that is at least five acres in size, suitable to sustain natural vegetation, and at least 75 percent forested. The lands must also be threatened by conversion to non-forest uses, must not be held in trust by the United States on behalf of any Indian Tribe, must not be Tribal allotment lands, must be offered for sale by a willing seller, and if acquired by an eligible entity, must provide defined community benefits under CFP and allow public access.

Applications must be submitted by June 29, 2018. Please review the Federal Register Notice for details.

Federal Register Notice: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/04/18/2018-08051/request-for-applications-the-community-forest-and-open-space-conservation-program>

For more information and background about the Community Forest Program, see: CFP How the Program Work webpage

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If you are not already a member, the Office of Environmental Justice would like to invite you to join the EJ ListServ. The purpose of this information tool is to notify individuals about activities at EPA in the field of environmental justice. By subscribing to this list you will receive information on EPAs activities, programs, projects grants and about environmental justice activities at other agencies. Noteworthy news items, National meeting announcements, meeting summaries of NEJAC meetings, and new publication notices will also be

distributed. Postings can only be made by the Office of Environmental Justice. To request an item to be posted, send your information to [environmental-justice@epa.gov](mailto:environmental-justice@epa.gov) and indicate in the subject "Post to EPA-EJ ListServ"

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